

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

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Control: 13860

Rec'd: JANUARY 24, 1959

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FROM: PARIS

Info

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

SS

NO: 2714, JANUARY 24, 11 AM

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SENT DEPARTMENT 2714, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 582, BONN 252.

IN DELIVERING SECRETARY'S BIRTHDAY MESSAGE TO COUVE THIS MORNING HE REFERRED TO MERCHANT CONVERSATION WITH ALPHAND SOME DAYS AGO IN WHICH SUGGESTION OF 4-POWER CONFERENCE IN APRIL WAS PUT FORWARD. HE SAID HE HAD PASSED TO ALPHAND THEIR CONSIDERED CONCLUSION THAT TO OFFER A DATE IN APRIL WHICH IS AHEAD OF THE MAY DATE IS SIGN OF WEAKNESS AND PARTIAL RECOGNITION OF ULTIMATUM. ALTERNATIVES HE PROPOSES ARE EITHER A) AN OFFER OF CONFERENCE WITHOUT DATE SPECIFIED OR B) AN OFFER OF CONFERENCE WITH DATE SUBSEQUENT TO MAY 27. OF THESE HE PREFERS THE FORMER.

HOUGHTON

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762.00/1-2459

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